



SENIOR CARE[®]

OF CONNECTICUT

Aging Committee Public Hearing

Testimony of SENIOR CARE ADULT DAY CARE

SB 244 AA INCREASING HOME CARE PROVIDER RATES

March 4, 2014

Good morning Senator Ayala, Representative Serra and Members of the Aging Committee, my name is Patricia Rockwell and I am the Regional Director for Senior Care Adult Day Care Center in Middlebury.

We have seen many families over the last several years successfully keep their loved ones at home and out of institutional care with just a bit of support from Adult Day Care and other community based services, but without a significant reinvestment into those community services like Adult Day, demand will exceed capacity in the very near future and many families will be left without a choice. SB 244 AA Increasing Home Care Provider Rates is an important step in making such an investment and we urge the committee's support.

The state has set up a wonderful program, Money Follows the Person (MFP). But, without reinvestment into the community, the safety net will be ill prepared to handle not only the influx of MFP clients currently, but also the generational influx expected over the next decade.

Community providers like Adult Day, Home Care, Meals on Wheels and Assisted Living Facilities have all joined together in support of this proposal and the 2% increase envisioned would go a long way in helping all of us. By working together we are hoping to preserve the community safety net for our communities. We all share the same cost pressures from an increase in gas and food prices, to a higher acuity patient. But it remains our mission to serve these folks and we hope to do so with your continued support.

Thank you for putting this proposal forward. It is truly the right time for this kind of investment. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Rockwell

Patricia Rockwell,
Regional Director